

Claims

1. Use of a composition which contains 1-(2-ethyl-
5 hexyl)glycerol ether for the disinfection of the
surface of an article at a temperature above 25°C.
2. Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that
the disinfection takes place at a temperature of
30°C or above, preferably 35°C or above, in
10 particular 40°C or above.
3. Use according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in
that the disinfection takes place at 40 to 80°C,
more preferably from 45 to 60°C, in particular 45
15 to 55°C, particularly preferably at about 50°C.
4. Use according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in
that the disinfection takes place at up to 170°C,
preferably at 80 to 160°C, more preferably 100 to
20 150°C, in particular 120 to 140°C, most preferably
130 to 135°C.
5. Use according to any of the preceding claims,
characterized in that the surface is wetted,
25 sprayed, rubbed, wiped or moistened with the
composition, the surface is dipped into the
composition, or the surface is disinfected by
atomizing the composition.
- 30 6. Use according to any of the preceding claims,
characterized in that the surface is made of
metal, glass, wood, plastic, textile or ceramic.
7. Use according to any of the preceding claims,
35 characterized in that the article is a medical
instrument or laboratory apparatus.
8. Use according to any of the preceding claims,
characterized in that the disinfection time is

10 seconds to 1 hour, more preferably 1 minute to 30 minutes, in particular 5 to 15 minutes.

5 9. Use according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that it takes place in an instrument disinfection method which comprises the following steps:

10 a) where appropriate precleaning with cold water,

b) cleaning at 55 to 60°C with a neutral cleaner,

15 c) thermochemical disinfection with the composition at 55 to 60°C acting for a time of from 1 to 20 minutes,

d) rinsing with cold water and

20 e) drying.

10. Use according to any of Claims 1 to 8, characterized in that it takes place in an instrument disinfection method which comprises the following steps:

25 a) where appropriate precleaning with cold water,

30 b) cleaning with a neutral cleaner, raising the temperature to 90 to 100°C, preferably 90 to 95°C, more preferably about 93°C,

35 c) thermochemical disinfection with the composition at 90 to 100°C, preferably 90 to 95°C, more preferably about 93°C, acting for a time of from 1 to 20 minutes,

d) rinsing with water and

e) drying, where appropriate at 40 to 60°C.

11. Use according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that besides (a) 1-(2-ethyl-hexyl)glycerol ether, the composition contains
5 (b) one or more further agents and/or (c) one or more auxiliaries.
12. Use according to Claim 11, characterized in that
10 the further agent is citric acid.
13. Use according to Claim 11 or Claim 12, characterized in that the auxiliary is selected from wetting agents, cleansing components, corrosion inhibitors, surfactants, buffers, acids, alkal-
15 izing agents, perfumes, dyes, salts, indicators, markers, complexing agents and antifoams, especially sodium chloride, sodium benzoate or sodium hydroxide.
- 20 14. Use according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the composition is a liquid concentrate which contains 1 to 20% by weight, preferably 2 to 10% by weight, of 1-(2-ethyl-hexyl)glycerol ether and, where appropriate up to
25 40% by weight of water, the concentrate being diluted to give an aqueous solution for use.
15. Use according to any of Claims 11 to 13, characterized in that the composition is an aqueous
30 solution for use which contains 0.01 to 1.0% by weight, more preferably 0.025 to 0.5% by weight, in particular 0.05 to 0.2% by weight, particularly preferably about 0.1% by weight, of glycerol ether and (b) 0.1 to 15% by weight, more preferably 0.5
35 to 10% by weight, in particular 1 to 5% by weight, of one or more further agents.
16. Use according to Claim 15, characterized in that the aqueous solution for use contains 80% by

weight or more, more preferably 89.5 to 99.45% by weight, in particular 94.9 to 98.9% by weight, of water.

- 5 17. Use according to Claim 15 or 16, characterized in
that the solution for use has a pH of from 3 to
10.
- 10 18. Use according to any of Claims 15 to 17, charac-
terized in that the composition is an aqueous
solution for use which contains (a) 0.05 to 0.2%
by weight, preferably about 0.1% by weight, of
1-(2-ethylhexyl)glycerol ether and (b) 0.5 to 2%
by weight, preferably about 1% by weight, of
15 citric acid.